

Message Text

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SUBJ: NIEHOUS KIDNAPPING-FEDECAMARAS REACTION TO
TAKEOVER OF OWNES-ILLINOIS

1. THE INFLUENTIAL VENEZUELAN BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
FEDECAMARAS HAS ISSUED A DECLARATION SUPPORTING THE GOV'S
STRONG STAND AGAINST TERRORISTS, BUT QUESTIONING THE GOV'S
ACTION IN NATIONALIZING THE COMPANY.

2. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE
DECLARATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE VENEZUELAN FEDERATION
OF CHAMBERS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF COMMERCE AND PRODUCTIONS
(FEDECAMARAS) HAS ANALYZED THE DECISION OF THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE THE SHARES OF OWNENS-ILLINOIS OF
VENEZUELA C.A. AS A REACTION AGAINST YIELDING TO BLACKMAIL,
WHICH SMALL GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY ARE ATTEMPTING TO HAVE
PREVAIL OVER THE DEMOCRATIC AND PLURALISTIC INSTITUTIONS OF OUR
SOCIETY...

COMPLAISANCE, TACIT OR EXPRESSED, BEFORE THIS CRIMINAL
INSURGENCY HAS HAD COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE RESULTS IN THOSE COUNTRIES
WHICH HAVE BEEN VICTIMS OF SUCH AN OFFENSIVE, SINCE IT HAS
STIMULATED TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. IN THIS SENSE FEDECAMARAS
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SUPPORTS AND SHARES THE ATTITUDE OF THE NATIONAL

GOVERNMENT IN NOT ACCEPTING NEGOTIATIONS, PROCEEDINGS OR ANY ACTION WHICH IMPLIES SATISFYING CLAIMS OR CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY KIDNAPPERS AND TERRORISTS. THE NATIONAL FEELING REJECTS THIS INCURSION AGAINST THE NOBILITY AND GENEROSITY CHARACTERISTIC OF THE VENEZUELAN PEOPLE AND BELIEVES THAT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, AS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANQUILITY AND SECURITY OF THE INHABITANTS OF OUR TERRITORY, IS WITHIN ITS LEGITIMATE RIGHTS AND IS FULFILLING ITS DUTY TO AFFIRM THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL NORMS AND THE ATRIBUTIONS OF LEGITIMATE POWER IN ORDER THAT, IN DEFENSE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY AND OF THE LEGAL CODE WHICH CONSITUTE THE ESSENCE OF THE SYSTEM, THIS ACTION CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT CONTRADICT THESE PRINCIPLES. FEDECAMARAS BELIEVES THAT WITHIN THE VENEZUELAN LEGAL SYSTEM MECHANISMS EXIST TO COUNTERACT ACTIONS TAKEN BY PRIVATE FIRMS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED CONTRARY TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST OR WHICH CONTRAVENE LAWS, DECREES OR OFFICIAL DISPOSITIONS, BUT IT IS WORRISOME THAT A COMPANY MAY BE ACQUIRED EACH TIME THAT IN THE GOVERNMENT'S OPINION CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS ARE INFRINGED UPON. CONSEQUENTLY, FEDECAMARAS EXPECTS TO LEARN THE MANNER IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WILL ACTUALLY ACT AND TRUSTS IT WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITH THE MOST ABSOLUTE RESPECT FOR THE LAW, AND THAT IT WOULD NOT BECOME A PRECEDENT WHICH CAN INJURE THE NORMS WHICH GOVERN THESE CASES, NOR SERVE TO ACCENTUATE STATIST TENDENCIES INCOMPATIBLE WITH OUR DEVELOPMENT. LIKEWISE FEDECAMARAS HOPES THE FUNCTIONING OF AN INDUSTRY WHICH IS BASIC TO MANY OTHERS IN IMPORTANT LINES IN MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY, PRINCIPALLY IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY, WILL NOT BE DISTRUBED. IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE THAT IN MOMENTS OF ANGUISH AND WORRY FOR THE RELATIVES AND THE COMPANY INVOLVED, REACTIONS HAVE OCCURRED WHICH, ALTHOUGH HUMAN AND LOGICAL, ARE NOT NECESSARILY JUSTIFIABLE WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL WELFARE, SINCE THEY GO AGAINST THE COLLECTIVE WILL TO PREVENT ANY TYPE OF ACTIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO SATISFYING SUBVERSIVE ASPIRATIONS AND, IN SHORT, CONTRIBUTE TO EXALTING THEM.

THE FEDECAMARAS BOARD REITERATES ITS CALL FOR CONSTITUING A NATIONAL FRONT AGAINST THE CRIMINAL OFFENSIVE WHICH SEEKS TO REPEAT IN OUR COUNTRY THE TRAGIC EXPERIENCES WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN OTHER COUNTRIES, AND INISTS ON THE URGENCY OF

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MODIFYING THE ATTITUDE AT THE OFFICIAL AND POLITICAL LEVEL WHICH PERMITS A MANTLE OF FORGETFULNESS TO BE CAST OVER THE UNFORTUNATE EVENTS OF THE DECADE OF THE 1960'S, TODAY GLORIFIED BY VARIOUS MEANS OF CULTURAL EXPRESSION. IN FOSTERING AND BRINGING TOGETHER THIS NATIONAL FRONT THE LEGISLATIVE, EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES AND ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING VARIOUS SOCIAL GROUPS AND ESTATES ARE EQUALLY INVOLVED...

IT IS NECESSARY, AND THUS WE EXPRESS IT WITH THE GREATEST
RESPONSIBILITY, FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO OUTLINE AND UNDERTAKE
A STRATEGY CAPABLE OF CONFRONTING THE NEW CRIMINAL METHOD,
IN ENDEAVOR THE GOVERNMENT DESERVES THE GREATEST NATIONAL SUP-
PORT, SINCE THE EFFECTS OF THE DISTURBANCE THAT IS THE GOAL
OF THESE SUBVERSIVE MOVEMENTS WILL BE INJURE AND TO SET BACK
THE WHOLE SOCIETY...UNQUOTE.
SHLAUDEMAM

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